



Mississippi Labor Market

Tracking Mississippi's Workforce

February 2004

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03		Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03
	Preliminary	Revised	Revised		Preliminary	Revised	Revised
Total Nonfarm Employed	1,109.9	1,125.9	1,107.2	Utilities	7.8	7.7	8.0
Natural Resources & Mining	8.6	8.9	8.3	Electric Power	5.3	5.3	5.6
Construction	48.9	50.7	51.0	Transportation & Warehousing	36.1	36.4	37.5
Manufacturing	176.2	178.3	180.5	Warehousing & Storage	7.5	7.6	8.4
Durable Goods	112.9	113.2	114.2	Information	14.4	14.8	15.5
Wood Products	12.4	12.6	13.3	Telecommunications	7.9	8.0	8.3
Sawmill- Wood Preservation	5.6	5.7	5.7	Finance & Insurance	34.4	34.3	34.2
Primary Metals	2.5	2.5	2.9	Credit Intermediation	21.2	21.0	21.0
Fabricated Metals	11.0	11.4	11.9	Depository Credit Intermediation	15.2	15.2	15.4
Machinery	11.3	11.5	12.7	Insurance Carriers	11.6	11.6	11.5
Ventilation - Heating - Air Condition	3.9	4.0	4.3	Real Estate & Rental	12.0	12.3	11.6
Computers - Electronics	2.9	2.9	3.0	Prof., Scient., Technical Services	29.7	29.0	29.3
Electrical Equipment & Appliances	8.6	8.7	9.6	Management of Companies	10.0	10.6	10.5
Electrical Equipment	3.9	3.9	4.7	Admin Spt & Waste Management	39.3	41.5	37.1
Transportation Equipment	26.7	26.6	23.3	Education Services	14.0	14.3	14.4
Motor Vehicle Parts	6.3	6.4	7.0	Health Care & Social Assistance	102.1	101.7	99.9
Ship & Boat Building	15.0	14.9	13.8	Hospitals	30.3	30.5	29.4
Furniture	28.1	27.6	27.8	Nursing & Resident Care	20.4	20.5	19.5
Nondurable Goods	63.3	65.1	66.3	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	12.3	13.1	12.5
Food Products	27.5	28.3	27.2	Amusements , Gambling, Recreation	11.3	12.1	11.6
Animal Slaughtering	19.6	20.0	19.6	Gambling	5.8	6.2	6.7
Apparel	5.4	5.5	5.9	Accommodation & Food Services	108.4	109.3	106.2
Paper Products	5.8	5.8	6.7	Accommodation	36.7	36.0	36.5
Pulp, Paper, Paperboard	2.2	2.2	2.9	Food Services & Drinking	71.7	73.3	69.7
Converted Paper Products	3.6	3.6	3.8	Other Services (Private)	35.9	36.4	37.2
Chemicals	5.9	6.3	7.1	Repair & Maintenance	9.7	9.7	10.0
Plastics & Rubber	9.4	9.4	9.3	Government	245.7	247.0	241.3
Wholesale Trade	35.7	35.9	34.7	Federal	25.8	26.1	25.8
Retail Trade	138.4	143.7	137.5	State	63.0	62.4	62.0
Food & Beverage Stores	19.4	19.6	19.8	State Education	23.1	22.7	22.4
Grocery Stores	17.8	18.0	18.0	Local	156.9	158.5	153.5
General Merchandise	37.7	39.7	37.7	Local Education	85.0	86.9	83.2
Department Stores	10.7	11.4	11.1				
Other General Merchandise	27.0	28.3	26.6				

NOTE: All data expressed in thousands

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Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries

	Avg Weekly Earnings			Avg. Weekly Hours			Avg. Hourly Earnings		
	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03
Manufacturing	\$522.59	\$540.79	\$512.62	40.7	41.0	40.3	\$12.84	\$13.19	\$12.72
Durable Goods	555.36	588.63	531.22	41.6	42.5	40.8	13.35	13.85	13.02
Wood Products	454.92	461.31	450.89	42.2	42.4	42.1	10.78	10.88	10.71
Fabricated Metals	599.24	620.75	555.81	42.2	43.5	39.9	14.20	14.27	13.93
Machinery	566.50	570.56	541.45	41.2	40.9	42.5	13.75	13.95	12.74
Furniture	503.74	530.72	481.04	41.7	42.8	38.7	12.08	12.40	12.43
Nondurable Goods	469.64	465.95	482.69	39.3	38.7	39.5	11.95	12.04	12.22
Food Products	397.37	370.26	377.52	39.5	37.4	38.8	10.06	9.90	9.73

Comments - Unadjusted Data

- ◆ Based on employer reports, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased 16,000 from December but was still 2,700 above one year ago.
- ◆ Manufacturing showed a monthly decrease of 2,100, which contributed to the 4,300 decrease from January 2003.
- ◆ As expected with the completion of the holiday shopping season, retail trade had the largest monthly employment decrease (5,300).
- ◆ Other significant monthly employment decreases occurred in construction (1,800), in administrative support and waste management (2,200), and in government (1,300).
- ◆ The civilian labor force declined with 2,900 less people than December. Unemployed individuals increased 16,100 while employed individuals decreased 19,000 over the month.
- ◆ As is usual for January, the unemployment rate rose 1.2 percentage point over the month.

U.S. Consumer Price Index - Base Year = 1982-84 = 100

Wage Earners & Clerical	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03	Wage Earners & Clerical	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03
All Items	180.9	179.9	177.7	Medical Care	302.8	301.4	291.8
Food & Beverages	183.8	183.6	177.4	Recreation / 1	105.6	105.5	105.1
Housing	182.1	181.0	177.9	Education & Communications / 1	109.8	109.7	109.2
Apparel	115.7	118.7	117.3	Other Goods & Services	309.3	308.1	305.6
Transportation	154.9	152.5	154.6	All Urban Consumers			
/ 1 Indexes on a December 1997 = 100 base				All Items	185.2	184.3	181.7

Mississippi Labor Force

(Data based on Place of Residence - Expressed in Thousands)

	Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03		Jan 04	Dec 03	Jan 03
	Prelim.	Revised	Revised		Prelim.	Revised	Revised
	(Not Seasonally Adjusted)				(Seasonally Adjusted)		
Labor Force	1,313.8	1,316.7	1,297.0	Labor Force	1,317.8	1,312.8	1,301.1
Unemployed	83.2	67.1	92.7	Unemployed	76.7	74.0	86.2
Rate	6.3%	5.1%	7.1%	Rate	5.8%	5.6%	6.6%
Employed	1,230.6	1,249.6	1,204.3	Employed	1,241.1	1,238.8	1,214.9
U.S. Rate	6.3	5.4	6.5	U.S. Rate	5.6	5.7	5.8

Data compiled by Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department, in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics